



Hampton Police Division Media Release

40 Lincoln Street
Hampton, VA 23669
757-727-6638



For Immediate Release

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OPERATION “BLOWFISH”

On Wednesday, January 26, 2005, representative from local, state and federal agencies conducted a press conference describing Operation Blowfish, an operation established to investigate and prosecute an interstate drug distribution network. Paul McNaulty, United States Attorney for the Eastern District, and local Chiefs of Police used charts and photographs to illustrate the organization’s methods of operation.

From September 1996 until this month, the ring moved about \$20 million in illegal drugs across several states, including Georgia, Kentucky, Missouri and Texas. The defendants established fictitious businesses, funneled money through bank accounts and credit unions, bought real estate, and used threats and firearms to conduct their activities.

During the course of the operation investigators seized over \$20,000,000.00 in currency, weapons, property and narcotics. Over 30 defendants are awaiting trial for an excess of 300 federal indictments related to drug trafficking and money laundering.



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